CLAIMS

The embodiment of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed is defined as follows:

1. A device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of a patient, the device comprising:
   a) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head;
   b) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck; and
   c) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the third substrate contacts the patient's chest.

2. The device as recited in claim 1 further comprising one or more means for removably securing the device to a backboard.

3. The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the second substrate defines an aperture with a reversible closure adapted to receive a tracheal tube imbedded in the patient without contacting the tracheal tube.

4. The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the first substrate defines an

aperture to facilitate access to the patient's cervical spine area.

5. The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the first substrate, the second substrate and the third substrate are integrally molded to each other.

6. The device as recited in claim 1 further comprising a fourth substrate adapted to contact the top of the head and removably attached to the first substrate and the second substrate.

7. The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the first substrate, the second substrate and the third substrate are transparent.

8. The device as recited in claim 1 wherein said first substrate is in slidable communication with a pliable material adapted to contact an occipital skull region of the patient.

9. The device as recited in claim 1 further comprising an arcuate-shaped substrate in pivotal communication with said second substrate, whereby the arcuate-shaped substrate is adapted to receive the patient's chin.

10. The device as recited in claim 1 wherein said first substrate allows visual inspection of the patient's ears.

11. The device as recited in claim 1 wherein said third substrate extends at least as low as the patient's second rib.

12. The device as recited in claim 2 wherein the securing means comprises an elongated substrate having a first end attached to the first substrate of the device and a second end adapted to be removably fastened to the backboard.

13. The device as recited in claim 12 wherein the second end terminates in a geometric shape that is matingly received by a surface supported by the backboard.

14. The device as recited in claim 13 wherein the surface is removably attached to the backboard.

15. The device as recited in claim 1 wherein at least one substrate comprises cushioning materials.

16. The device as recited in claim 1 wherein at least one substrate comprises one or more tubes.

17. The device as recited in claim 9 wherein said arcuate substrate defines an angle with respect to the second substrate and wherein the device further comprises means to adjust said angle.

18. The device as recited in claim 9 wherein said arcuate substrate defines a distance with respect to the first substrate and wherein the device further comprises means to adjust said distance.

19. A device for simultaneously immobilizing a person's skull, cervical vertebrae, and mandible, the device comprising:

a) a first substrate which extends from an occipital region of the skull to the first thoracic vertebrae of the person;

b) a second substrate communicating with the first substrate and extending in a direction anterior to the person, whereby the second substrate encircles the neck of the person;

c) a means for immobilizing the first and second substrates to a backboard.

20. The device as recited in claim 19 wherein the second substrate defines an

aperture having a removable continuous periphery.